

report, and added that she would be glad at any time to hear what he had to say if her conduct displeased him. Any other man but Knox would have been flattered by the compliment, but the unconscionable preacher improved the occasion to lecture her on the waste of time which these visits cost him, and to rebuke her for not coming to hear his sermons. " I am called, Madam, to ane publict functioun within the Kirk of God, and am appointed by God to rebuke the synnes and vices of all. I am not appointed to come to everie man in particular to schaw him his offense, for that labour war infinite. Yf your Grace please to frequent the publick sermonis, then doubt I nott but that ye shall fullie understand boyth what I like and myslike, als weall in your Majestie as in all otheris. Or yf your Grace will assigne unto me a certane day and hour when it will please you to hear the forme and substance of doctrin, whiche is proponed in publict to the churches of this realme, I will most gladlie await upon your Grace's pleasur, tyme, and place. But to waitt upoun your chalmer-doore, or ellis whair, and then to have no further libertie but to whisper my mynd in your Grace's ear, or to tell to you what otheris think and speak of you, neather will my conscience, nor the vocation whairto God hath called me suffer it. For albeit at your Grace's commandment I am heare now, yitt can I nott tell what other men shall judge of me, that at this tyme of day am absent from my book and wayting upoun the Courte."

No wonder that Mary turned her back upon him with the curt remark, " You will not always be at your book." Whereupon, continues the " History," " the said Johne Knox departed with a reasonable meary countenance ; whairat some papists, offended, said, ' He is not effrayed.' Which heard of him, he answered, * Why should the pleasing face of a gentill woman effray me ? I have looked on the faces of many angrie men, and yitt have not been effrayed above measure."

Knox's quarrel was as much with the Protestant lords as with the queen. " Who gydis the Queene and the Court ?" he bitterly asked; " Who but the Protestantis ?" They thwarted him in the palace ; they opposed him in the General Assembly, which frequently met during the first years of Mary's reign. It is now that this famous ecclesiastical council